

**MILTON TOWNSHIP  
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
JANUARY 3, 2011**

A Special meeting of the Milton Township Board was called to order on January 3, 2011 at 6:30 P.M., at the township hall with Supervisor Robert Benjamin presiding.

**PRESENT BOARD MEMBERS:**

Supervisor: Robert Benjamin  
Trustee: Donald Kronewitter  
Trustee: Sharon Ward

**ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS:**

Clerk: Michael Layher  
Treasurer: Linda DeBroka

**PRESENT PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS:**

Chairman: Kelly Sweeney  
Vice Chairman: Diane Shields  
Secretary: Ronald Jureziz  
Member: Jeremy Clanton  
Member: Richard Hebard  
Member: Sandra Redman  
Member: Sharon Ward

**ABSENT PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS:**

NONE

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Zoning Administrator: Paul Sniadecki

Supervisor Benjamin asked for a motion for someone to take meeting minutes. Motion made by Trustee Ward for Trustee Kronewitter to take the meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Supervisor Benjamin. Motion approved.

Meeting called to be a joint workshop of the Milton Township Board and the Milton Township Planning Commission members regarding the working draft copy of the Milton Township Master Plan

Chairman Sweeney stated this is the first full draft of the proposed Master Plan presented to the Planning Commission by Williams and Works. A digital copy also has been provided. Upon the suggestion of Chairman Sweeney, the consensus was that the workshop attendees would go thru the Master Plan page by page. Notes of changes recommended as well as comments and suggestions would be heard for consideration and possible incorporation by the Planning Commission. Discussion and explanations followed.

Spelling Errors were noted, tend/trend – boarder/border – Juday Lake - Smith's Chapel (apostrophe S) - principle /principal - with / wit.

It was agreed Rivers do not exist within Milton Township. Williams & Works should be consulted for clarification regarding their reference to ponds and lakes. Trustee Kronewitter recalled the owner of Goose Lake making the statement it being 11' deep in parts. Would this be considered a lake or a pond?

All maps –Lloyd St. is not according to scale and the westerly tail could be trimmed. Map 6 – Issues with the current land use discussed. Paul Sniadecki will provide Fire Maps when available.

Census numbers for Milton Township are to be released sometime in 2011, exact date is not known.

Discussion of text in regards to names of roads and streets within the township. Within the draft copy, streets and roads names vary. Examples: Due to the address change there is no longer East Bertrand Road. The county changed it to Bertrand Street. Redfield Road is now Redfield Street.

Old Township Hall on 12 is not owned by the township and the township has no meetings there. This building is owned by a private individual.

Police Protection and neighborhood watch, discussion held and it appears no documentation of a neighborhood watch exists. Chairman Sweeney stated we do not want our document to imply we have something that we do not.

Supervisor Benjamin stated our fire department is called: Edwardsburg Fire Department – not the Village of Edwardsburg.

School Map – Suggested by Supervisor Benjamin to have it validated with the Assessor, Doug Brousseau and Treasurer Linda DeBroka.

The Planning Commission questioned if there are 17 historic sites in the township. If they are, should they be listed individually? Supervisor Benjamin would like the draft to include the township's involvement of the restoration of Smith's Chapel in 2009 and that the township continues to provide maintenance of same. Under "Air Service" – The new concourse was completed in 2010.

Map 8 - Gumwood and US 12 are principle arteries and should be indicated as such.

Page 49 – 50 / Supervisor Benjamin stated concerns with the meaning of "Services for the Older Community". Member Hebard said previous discussion with the planning commission spoke to possible assisted living quarters and additional generalized items.

Page 51 – Supervisor Benjamin stated concerns about protecting the agricultural areas. Also noted that our ordinances do not match what is being proposed in the master plan draft. Ordinances will need to be rewritten to protect the areas as described in the Master Plan. Zoning Administrator, Sniadecki stated the current 5 acre requirement is hurting the township.

Page 52 – Supervisor Benjamin affirmed that any changes regarding zoning must be addressed in the Master Plan. Zoning and the master plan ordinances must be in place before coming to a vote and becoming official.

Page 55 – A section E was added to goals and objectives. Page 57 – Zoning Administrator Paul Sniadecki stated it is crucial to state what the future uses are for Gumwood Road. Future land maps do not show this. Supervisor Benjamin spoke of his concern that these maps do not reflect what the residents want. The public wants a rural setting – it appears the future land use maps have single family increased by double if not triple. Discussion was made to consider having separate 10 year, 15 year and 20 year maps. Page 62 – 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, under Single Family Residential, text says we have 2 acres and we only have 1.

Chairman Sweeny commented "we do not want to tell people what they can and cannot with their land." Supervisor Benjamin replied, "The Planning Commission must give residents Guidance on what they can and cannot do with their land as well."

Supervisor Benjamin told the planning commission he was appreciative of all the good work they have done.

Supervisor Benjamin informed the Planning Commission he would like their budget requests for the upcoming budget. He will be preparing and proposing that budget in February 2011.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Sue Kronewitter asked if the township was required to allocate a certain percent of land to the various classifications, Rural Residential, Single Family, Agriculture, etc. Planning commission members and the Zoning Administrator responded no. Sue Kronewitter commended the Planning Commission for the work they have accomplished.

**OTHER COMMENTS:**

Monday January 10, 2011 Supervisor Robert Benjamin will hold a Town Hall Meeting to discuss preparation and ideas for the upcoming 2011-2012 Operating Budget. All citizen and property owner input is welcome. Remind any residents and neighbors you know to come.

**ADJORNMENT:**

Motion made to adjourn by Trustee Kronewitter, seconded by Supervisor Benjamin. Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald Kronewitter  
Trustee